



Maryland Green Registry MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce



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www.bowiechamber.org/index.php

Nonprofit

Member since November 2017

MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP



Environmental Policy Statement

At the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce, we believe that economic growth and environmental progress are not mutually exclusive goals. They are two goals that can be coupled together to improve the efficiency of all our processes, all whilst managing the environmental effects and aspects of our operations. In an effort to stand by this belief, we have formulated our own environmental policy statement, which forms the foundation of environmental improvements made by the Chamber.

The benefits of an environmental policy are as follows, but are not limited to:

- helping stay updated with environmental law*
- improving information for employees about their environmental roles and responsibilities*
- improving cost control*
- conserving energy*
- improving monitoring of environmental impacts*
- improving efficiency within the office*

In fact, as mentioned by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the United States is the only major country that has actually and substantially reduced its CO₂ emissions while continuing to grow our economy. In doing so, we hope to demonstrate a commitment to decreasing our carbon footprint and setting an example for our members and the community.

Environmental Team

The Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce Environmental Team was recently created to help its new and improved Green initiatives so that it can further promote the program to businesses within the Chamber. It consists of Pauline Markward (Executive Director of GBCC, Cecily Flight (Administrative Assistant of GBCC), and Michael Oleru (W.F. Chesley Real Estate – Chamber member). By working with City of Bowie staff, the green team at the chamber will continue to work on green initiatives of all types and becoming as sustainable as possible.

Annual Environmental Goals

We have six businesses within the Chamber that are currently on the Maryland Green Registry and are a “Green Bowie Biz.” We would like to double this number by working with our green team and City of Bowie staff. We will be hosting a mixer on April 12th with the Maryland Green Registry as an agenda item and will be hosting a Green Business Mixer on May 10th.

WASTE

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

The Chamber has diverted numerous large items from landfill by obtaining all of its furniture second hand. We also work to reuse boxes for storage and generate essentially no waste ourselves as a very small business. We also have much of our information online now and have moved away from paper brochures, information, etc.

Recycling

The Chamber is located within the Kenhill Center in Bowie, which is serviced by City of Bowie Public Works for recycling. Any paper coming from our two shredders as well as all old papers are recycled and picked up. We also recycle ink cartridges with our Chamber member who benefits from recycling them.

TRANSPORTATION

Employee Commute

Two of our employees often walk to work, living within a mile of the office. This saves about 4 miles travelled each day, averaging a saving of 384 miles annually.



Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

